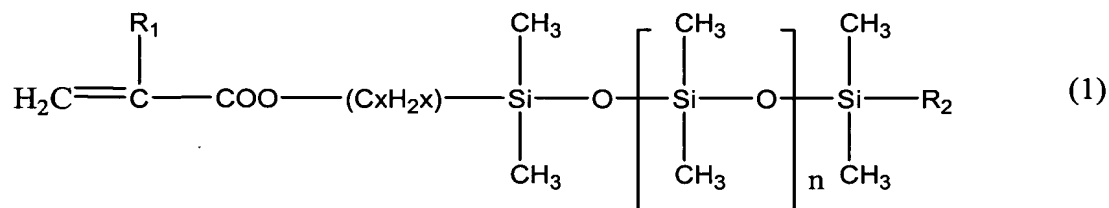


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-5, 7-12, 22 and 24 are now active in this application. Claim 1 has been amended to correct a typographical error as suggested by the Examiner. Claim 5 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of original claim 6, indicated as allowable by the Examiner. Claims 7 and 9 have been amended to correct their dependencies to the newly amended claim 5. Claims 6, 13-21 and 23 have been cancelled, either previously or by the present amendment. No new matter is believed to be entered by the present amendment.

Applicants representative would like to thank Examiner Robertson for the indication of allowable subject matter in the present claims. It is believed that the present amendment places all remaining claims in condition for allowance as all claims now correspond to, or depend from, claims indicated as allowable in the Official Action.

The present invention relates to a polymer comprising units obtained from a monomer having either an acidic or basic group that is capable of undergoing an acid-base dissociation reaction in a silicone oil, and a monomer having the formula (1):



Further the present invention relates to an image displaying medium comprising a pair of electroconductive layers, at least one of these being light transmissive and the layers being opposed one another to form a cell and a dispersion comprising a silicone oil, a colored particulate material dispersed therein and a polymer dispersed therein, wherein the polymer and the colored particulate material can undergo an acid-base dissociation reaction in the silicone oil.

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The invention further relates to a composition comprising a silicone oil, a colored particulate material and polymer dispersed therein, wherein the particulate and the polymer can undergo an acid-base dissociation reaction in the silicone oil.

Claims 1-4 and 24 have been allowed by the Examiner. Claims 6-9 were indicated as allowable subject matter. Accordingly, claim 5 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 6, and the dependencies of claims 7 and 9 corrected to be dependent from claim 5 as amended.

The rejection of claims 5, 10-14, and 16-23 over Albert is believed to be moot, since claims 13-21 and 23 have now been cancelled, and Claim 5 has been amended to include the allowable limitations of claim 6 (with claims 7-12 and 22 now depending directly or indirectly from amended claim 5). As such, the rejection should be withdrawn, and all remaining claims allowed.

Applicants' representative notes that the statement regarding the interview previously held that "Applicants would like to thank Examiner Robertson for the indication that the claims as now amended would be allowed over the art of record" was believed to reflect the outcome of the discussion held on December 2, 2003, although it is agreed that the Interview Summary did not explicitly denote this, and it was understood by Applicants and Applicants' representative that the Examiner would have to consider the response before any final determination regarding allowability of the claims.

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Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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